

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising collagen and a sugar material, wherein a physical form of a mixture of the collagen and the sugar material has been irradiated with ultraviolet radiation so as to form glucose-derived crosslinked collagen and subsequently irradiated with gamma radiation, so as to sterilize the glucose-derived crosslinked collagen, wherein the sugar material is selected from the group consisting of glucose, ribose, threose, galactose, lactose, maltose or any combination thereof, ~~and wherein irradiation with gamma radiation is a means of sterilizing said composition.~~

2. (canceled)

3. (previously amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the collagen is mixed with an appropriate solvent.

4. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the physical form comprises a film, sponge, fiber, liquid, gel, paste or powder.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A method for preparing a composition comprising:

- (a) mixing a collagen with a sugar material;
- (b) processing the mixture of step (a) into a physical form;
- (c) exposing the product of step (b) to ultraviolet radiation so as to form glucose-derived crosslinked collagen and subsequently to gamma radiation so

~~as to sterilize the glucose-derived crosslinked collagen, wherein exposure to gamma radiation is a means of sterilizing said composition,~~

wherein the sugar material is selected from the group consisting of glucose, ribose, threose, galactose, lactose, maltose or any combination thereof.

7. (canceled)

8. (previously amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the collagen is mixed with an appropriate solvent.

9. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the physical form comprises a film, sponge, fiber, liquid, gel, paste or powder.

10-14. (canceled)